

App. Serial No.: 09/612,612

Atty. Docket No.: 0069-011

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A personal computer protection device for disconnecting a computer system from a ~~communications channel~~ network connection during power down periods, said personal computer protection device comprising:

an AC outlet for providing electrical power to a monitor of the computer system;

[[a))] means for sensing an amount of power drawn from said AC outlet by

[[a]] said monitor in the computer system;

[[b))] a housing having an input port for connecting to a ~~communications channel~~ network;

[[c))] an output in said housing for connecting said input port to a ~~communications channel~~ network connection ~~input~~ of the computer system; and

[[d))] a relay in said housing connected between said input port and output port for selectively disconnecting said input port and output port automatically upon said sensing means sensing the ~~voltage~~ power drawn from said AC outlet is below a threshold value indicating the computer system is in a powered down or sleep state.

2. (previously presented) The personal computer protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said input and output ports are cable connectors, said input port being connectable to a cable line.

3. (previously presented) The personal computer protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said input and output ports are xDSL, said input port being connectable to a xDSL line.

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4. (previously presented) The personal computer protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said input and output ports are telephone connectors, said input port being connectable to a telephone line.

5. (previously presented) The personal computer protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said device includes first, second and third input ports, first, second and third corresponding output ports and first second and third relays, each relay being connected between a respective pair of input and output ports.

6. (previously presented) The personal computer protection device as recited in Claim 5, wherein said first input and first output ports are cable connectors, said second input and second output ports are xDSL connectors and said third input and third output ports are telephone connectors.

7. (previously presented) The personal computer protection device as recited in Claim 6, further comprising a telephone/facsimile connector, said telephone/facsimile connector being powered on at all times said device is in the on mode.

8. (previously presented) The personal computer protection device as recited in Claim 6, further comprising a manual override switch for manually triggering said relay to disconnect said input and output ports, thereby switching the protection device from an on mode to an off mode, and an AC power switch for turning off all power to said protection device and computer.

9. (previously presented) The personal computer protection device as recited in Claim 5, further comprising a manual override switch for manually triggering said relay to disconnect said first, second and third input ports from said first, second and third output ports, respectively.

10. (canceled)

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11. (previously presented) The personal computer protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said means for sensing triggers said relay to connect said input and output port during a predetermined period during a day thereby allowing a user to contact the computer system through the communications channel during the predetermined time of day.

12. (currently amended) The personal computer protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein ~~said device is connected to a power source and includes a power outlet for connection with and supplying power to the computer system,~~ said sensing means sensing ~~senses~~ the amount of power used by the computer system including the monitor.

13 (currently amended) The personal computer protection device as recited in ~~Claim~~ Claim 1, wherein ~~said device is connected to a power source and includes a power outlet for connection with and supplying power to a monitor of the computer system,~~ said sensing means sensing ~~senses~~ the amount of power used drawn directly from the AC outlet by the monitor.

14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) A personal computer protection device for disconnecting a computer system from a ~~communications channel~~ network connection during power down periods, said personal computer protection device ~~consisting of~~ including:

[[a]] a housing having input and output ports for ~~communications channels~~ various types of network connections, with one input port being connected through a line to one output port for each particular ~~form of communication~~ type of network connection;

a plug connectable to an AC power source;

an AC outlet for providing electrical power;

[[b]] means for sensing a power drawn from said AC outlet by ~~a monitor in~~ said computer system;

[[c]] a relay in said housing in each line connecting an input port to an output port;

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[[d]] said sensing means disabling each relay for disconnecting the input ports from the output ports when the power drawn ~~by the monitor from said AC outlet~~ is below a threshold value indicating the computer system is in a powered down or sleep state; and

[[e]] a manually operated switch for disabling said relays to move said protection device from an on mode to an off mode ~~[[,]] a light glowing when said protection device is in the on mode.~~

16. (currently amended) A personal computer protection device for disconnecting a computer system from a ~~communications channel~~ network connection during reduced power periods, said personal computer protection device comprising:

an AC power outlet;

a power sensor monitoring power ~~consumed~~ drawn by a monitor of the computer system from said AC power outlet;

a housing having an input port for connecting to a ~~communications channel~~ network;

an output in said housing for connecting said input port to a ~~communications channel input~~ network connector of the computer system; and

a relay in said housing connected between said input port and output port for selectively disconnecting said input port and output port automatically upon said power sensor detecting that the power drawn is below a threshold value indicating the computer system is in a reduced power state.

17. (previously presented) The personal computer protection device of Claim 16, wherein said power sensor monitors power consumption by monitoring a voltage.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) The personal computer failsafe protection device of Claim 16, wherein said power sensor monitors power ~~consumed~~ drawn by said monitor by monitoring the power ~~consumed~~ drawn by said computer system including said monitor.